

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

August 01, 1981

POLAND: Political Opportunities for Solidarity

*The government cannot meet the workers' economic demands, and it will have to seek political help from Solidarity to contain the population's anger.* [REDACTED]

Since the government lacks credibility, Solidarity will have to play the major role in reducing tensions over the 20-percent cut in meat rations for this month and the extensive fear of new price increases. [REDACTED]

Although the regime might rescind the ration cut, this would have only a marginal effect. It has already announced there is insufficient meat to fulfill ration commitments. [REDACTED]

Only reassurance from Solidarity that the government will cooperate with the unions in resolving supply problems and that the union will monitor the government's actions can win time for the regime. Solidarity probably would have to redouble efforts to persuade the population that the government is not hiding supplies. [REDACTED]

The regime also will need to involve Solidarity early in the planning for economic reform. Many workers fear that proposed price increases will bear heaviest upon those who earn the least, and they will feel secure only if they know the union is attempting to protect their interests. [REDACTED]

Solidarity is responding to the rank and file's demands for action on the supply question, but is still allowing time for the government to demonstrate good will. The Warsaw chapter of Solidarity, for example, has declared a strike alert for the capital on Monday and a two-hour general strike for Wednesday. It has said that if its demands are not met, it will ask Solidarity's national leadership to call a 24-hour national strike in the third week of this month. [REDACTED]

Jagielski Replaced

Deputy Prime Minister Jagielski, who resigned yesterday, had lost much of his influence and standing

Approved for Release  
Date AUG 1999

CIACO NID 81 [REDACTED]

August 01, 1981

when he was not reelected to the party's Central Committee and Politburo. Although he is Poland's senior economic expert, he probably is a partial scapegoat for the economic mess the country is in. Moscow has thus lost another close contact in the regime. [REDACTED]

Minister of Labor and Wages Obodowski replaces Jagielski. Obodowski got off on the wrong foot last fall with Solidarity when he became the focal point of the union protests over the 40-hour workweek issue. [REDACTED]

#### Soviet Military Activity

Soviet forces are continuing to conduct extensive [REDACTED] exercises, as is normal for this portion of their training cycle. [REDACTED] 28 Warsaw Pact divisions in and around Poland--including the two Soviet divisions in Poland-- [REDACTED] no unusual activity and no indication of preparations for invasion. [REDACTED]